

20<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Ms. Holly Cairns, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 44298/23**

**"To ask the Minister for Health the number of school dentists in County Cork; the number of schools each dentist supports; and the number of pupils in each school, in tabular form."**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

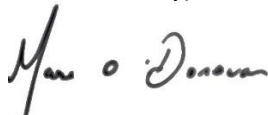
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE Primary Care Dental Service provides dental treatment to eligible children, medical card holders, adults and children with special needs and others in the care of the HSE at various locations throughout Cork and Kerry. Children under 16 years of age are treated in HSE dental clinics and adults are treated by private dental practitioners contracted to the Health Services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS).

The HSE Primary Dental Service employs 45 dentist i.e. 28.3 whole time equivalents (WTEs) as most dentists involved in the school screening programme of 370 schools around County Cork work part-time. The HSE does not have access to the numbers attending each school.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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**Mari O'Donovan**  
Acting Head of Service - Primary Care,  
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare